IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of : SPROAT, Martin

Serial No. : 10/656,554

Filed : September 5, 2003

For : Improved Network Service Provider

Architecture In Communications Network

Examiner : NGUYEN, Steven H D

Art Unit : 2416

Customer number : 23644

Confirmation No. : 8188

Attorney Docket No. : 41319-94756

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 312

Honorable Director of Patents and Trademarks P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

It is requested that the following amendment be entered: